

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

The invention describes HLA class II binding peptides encoded by the SSX-2 tumor associated gene, as well as nucleic acids encoding such peptides and antibodies relating thereto. The peptides stimulate the activity and proliferation of CD4<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes.

5 Methods and products also are provided for diagnosing and treating conditions characterized by expression of the SSX-2 gene.